Foreign Exchange Reserve

3250. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the comparative figures of foreign exchange reserve as on April 1, 1996 and Ist October, 1996 and on the corresponding dates in 1995; and

(b) the payments made on account of foreign loans, the amount received on account of foreign loans and for foreign investments separately during the period April-September, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) India's foreign exchange reserves, including gold and SDRs, at the begging of April and October, 1996, and on the corresponding dates in the previous year are given below :

India's Foreign Exchange Reserves (Opening Balance)

(US $ million)

	April, 1996	October, 1996	April, 1995	October, 1995
Foreign currency Assets	17,044	18,433	20,809	19,064
Gold	4,561	4,410	4,370	4,405
SDRs	82	57	7	8
Total	21,687	22,900	25,186	23,477

(b) The details of foreign loan receipts, and repayments of principal and interest payments made during April to September, 1996 are as under :

(Rs. crores)
(Provisional)

	Govt.A/C	Non-Govt. A/c
Receipts	3110.69	335.87
Repayments of Principal	3161.28	292.72
Payment of Interest	2125.00	379.84

During the same period, inflows of foreign capital to India in the form of foreign investment (both direct and portfolio) were about US $ 2.8 billion.

[Translation]

Setting up Cinema Complex

3251. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have granted permission to 43 companies including foreign companies for setting a Cinema Complex in India with the investment of Rs. 900 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these foreign investors are likely to cast adverse effect on the indigenous cinema companies of India; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). 44 proposals involving foreign direct investment of approx. Rs. 900 crores have been approved by Government on 31st July, 1996. This includes one approval to M/s. Warner Bros. International Theatre, USA also.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. The present approval is only for establishment of a holding company. Individual complexes would have to be set up as joint ventures with prior and specific approval of Government in which the holding company cannot hold more than 51% equity. The holding company is not authorised to directly undertake any activity and would have to obtain necessary permissions under the purview of the State Governments which would include permission under the provisions of the Cinematography Act.

[English]

Production of Indica Car

3252. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to produce a 1000cc passenger car named Indica by the end of 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any collaboration with foreign company has been signed by the manufacturer of this car;

(d) the total estimated production of the said cars per year;

(e) whether the project has since been cleared by the Government; and

(f) if so, the total amount involved for launching this project?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Government has not received any proposal to produce a 1000cc passenger car named Indica.

(b) to (f). Do not arise.

Houses for NTC Mill Workers

3253. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the workers on NTC mills particularly of the Model Mills in Nagpur are living in dilapidated houses;